The Economy Today: What our measures tell us about the current labor market

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Commissioner
Bureau of Labor Statistics
November 2010
Total private employment
Over-the-month change, 2008-10

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands

Note: Most recent 2 months of CES data are preliminary.
B-19. Employment in government
Over-the-month change, 2008-10

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands


Note: Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.
B-21. Index of local government employment from beginning of recession, seasonally adjusted

Note: Business cycle peak as determined by the National Bureau of Economic Research. Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.
Civilian unemployment rate 1990-2010

Unemployment rate = 9.6% in Oct. 2010

Note: Shaded areas represent recessions as determined by the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER).
Civilian labor force and unemployment levels, 2007-2010

Note: The shaded area represents a recession as determined by the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER).
Private nonfarm payrolls vs. the unemployment rate
Over-the-quarter change, 2000-10

Note: Shaded areas represent recessions as determined by the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER). Most recent 2 months of CES data are preliminary.
Employment-population ratio
1990-2010

Seasonally adjusted, percent

October 2010
Level: 58.3
Change: -0.2

Note: Shaded areas represent recessions as determined by the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER).
U.S. Inflation, 2000-2010

Concurrent Indicators
Total employment changes in expanding and contracting industries, 3-month change, seasonally adjusted, in thousands 1990-2010

Notes: Shaded areas represent recessions as determined by the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER). Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.
Private nonfarm payrolls vs. industrial production
Over-the-quarter change, 2000-10

Note: Shaded areas represent recessions as determined by the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER). Most recent 2 months of CES data are preliminary.
Private nonfarm payrolls vs. equipment and software investment
Over-the-quarter change, 2000-10

Notes: Shaded areas represent recessions as determined by the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER). Most recent 2 months of CES data are preliminary.
Temp help services and private nonfarm employment, 2000-10

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands

Employment in temp help services

- Temp help services
- Private nonfarm payrolls

Note: Shaded areas represent recessions as determined by the National Bureau of Economic Research. Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.
Industries
Construction employment, 1990-2010, seasonally adjusted

October 2010 = 5,625,000

Sep 96

Thousands

'90 '91 '92 '93 '94 '95 '96 '97 '98 '99 '00 '01 '02 '03 '04 '05 '06 '07 '08 '09 '10
Manufacturing employment
Over-the-month change, 2008-10

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands

Jan-08 Apr-08 Jul-08 Oct-08 Jan-09 Apr-09 Jul-09 Oct-09 Jan-10 Apr-10 Jul-10 Oct-10

Note: Most recent 2 months of CES data are preliminary.
Manufacturing employment
1939-2010

Since January 2000, employment has fallen -32.5%

Note: Most recent 2 months of CES data are preliminary.
Shaded areas represent recessions as determined by the National Bureau of Economic Research.
B-13. Employment in retail trade
2000-10

Seasonally adjusted, in thousands

October 2010
Level: 14,488.3
Change: +27.9

Note: Shaded areas represent recessions as determined by the National Bureau of Economic Research. Most recent 2 months of data are preliminary.
## RETAIL TRADE

**Holiday Season Employment Buildup/Layoff**

(unadjusted, in thousands)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>SEPT. LEVEL</th>
<th>OCT.</th>
<th>NOV.</th>
<th>DEC.</th>
<th>PERCENT BUILDUP THRU OCT.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2005-06</td>
<td>8,264.0</td>
<td>120.6</td>
<td>392.7</td>
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<td>2006-07</td>
<td>8,241.3</td>
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<td>423.4</td>
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<td>2007-08</td>
<td>8,442.1</td>
<td>108.4</td>
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<td>2008-09</td>
<td>8,292.8</td>
<td>74.0</td>
<td>259.1</td>
<td>140.8</td>
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<td>2009-10</td>
<td>7,877.1</td>
<td>66.7</td>
<td>335.7</td>
<td>152.2</td>
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<td>Average</td>
<td>8,223.5</td>
<td>104.1</td>
<td>374.6</td>
<td>176.6</td>
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<td>2010-11</td>
<td>7,888.6</td>
<td>146.0</td>
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<td>1.9</td>
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Note: Includes employment only from Furniture and home furnishings stores, Electronics and appliance stores, Other specialty food stores, Health and personal care stores, Clothing and clothing accessories stores, Sporting goods, hobby, book, and music stores, General merchandise stores, Miscellaneous store retailers, and Electronic shopping and mail-order houses.
Motor vehicle and parts employment
1999-2010

Since January 2000, employment has fallen -48.3%

Note: Most recent 2 months of CES data are preliminary.
Shaded areas represent recessions as determined by the National Bureau of Economic Research.
Unemployment rates for persons 25 years and older by educational attainment 1992-2010

Seasonally adjusted, percent

Note: Shaded areas represent recessions as determined by the National Bureau of Economic Research.
Unemployment rates for whites, blacks or African Americans, and persons of Hispanic or Latino ethnicity 1990-2010

Note: Shaded areas represent recessions as determined by the National Bureau of Economic Research.
Alternative measures of labor underutilization
1994-2010

Seasonally adjusted, percent

Note: Shaded areas represent recessions as determined by the National Bureau of Economic Research.
Long-term unemployment rate
27 weeks and over, 1994-2010

Seasonally adjusted, percent

Long-term unemployment rate = 4.0% in October 2010

Unemployment rate

Long-term unemployment rate

Note: Shaded areas represent recessions as determined by the National Bureau of Economic Research.
Comparisons with Prior Recoveries
Percentage change in total private employment, from private nonfarm peak, seasonally adjusted

Percentage change in total private employment, from NBER designated trough, seasonally adjusted

Peak-to-trough employment decline, by downturn

Seasonally adjusted, percent

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total Nonfarm</th>
<th>Goods-Producing</th>
<th>Private Service-Providing</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1953</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1957</td>
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<td>2007</td>
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Share of total private employment losses by firm size, this downturn vs. 2001 downturn

Note: Data are preliminary. This downturn includes the most recently available data from Q1 2008 to Q4 2009. The 2001 downturn runs from Q2 2001 to Q2 2003.
Percentage change in temporary help services employment, from total private employment trough, seasonally adjusted

Most recent two months are preliminary.
Components of private sector gross job gains and gross job losses at opening and closing establishments, seasonally adjusted, March 1999 - December 2009

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics
Note: Shaded area represents NBER defined recession period.